

REMARKS

In accordance with the foregoing, claims 1-12, and 15 have been cancelled without prejudice. Thus, since the remaining claims 13,14, and 16 were allowed in the October 22, 2003 Office Action, it is submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. An early action to that effect is courteously solicited.

Finally, if there are any formal matters remaining after this response, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned to attend to these matters.

If there are any additional fees associated with this filing, please charge the same to our Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

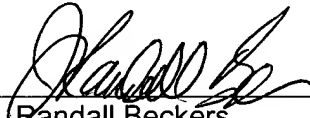
Respectfully submitted,

STAAS & HALSEY LLP

Date: _____

2/23/4

By: _____



J. Randall Beckers
Registration No. 30,358

1201 New York Avenue, N.W., Suite 700
Washington, D.C. 20005
Phone: (202) 434-1500
Facsimile: (202) 434-1501